University of Wisconsin-Platteville Sexual Assault Awareness Council – Minutes
3/22/11

Present: Mark Wruble, Pat Foster, Vickie Dreessens, Deirdre Dalsing, Darci Wildermuth, Sarah Bitting, Elizabeth Swift

Guest: Josh Jasper, Executive Director of Riverview, Inc.

Absent: Sabina Burton, Sheila Trotter, Scott Marquardt

Meeting minutes from 3/8/11 were reviewed. Motion was made by Vickie to approve. Motion seconded by Darci and approved.

Sarah Bitting (Gender Issues Director – Student Senate) updated group that the Consent is Sexy bracelets have arrived and they will be offering them to students from the PSC on several Wednesdays during April. Sarah met with Family Advocates who indicated they want to be as supportive as possible. They provided her several video ideas so her committee may still work to organize that event as well for April.

Josh Jasper was present to discuss with this council the messages we wanted to insure he included in his Violence Prevention training he is scheduled to offer to the Chancellor and his executive group on 3/31/11.

- Darci has put together a proposal to develop a Civility Director/Student Advocate position on campus that could prioritize sexual assault issues and advocacy for students.
- Pat is aware and Vickie provided further information about a grant that Family Advocates is working on to secure a possible advocate position for campus.
- Deirdre would like to see a contact person (in administration) that is specifically charged to address sexual assault issues on campus.
- Marc would like to see the Chancellor made aware of the issues related to sexual assault and gather his support for systemic changes necessary to make this a more civil/respectful campus. Marc specifically addressed all of us needing the tools to know how to do that.
- Group agreed with Josh’s comment regarding “curriculum infusion”.
- Group agreed there were institutional barriers to reporting that needed to be addressed.
- Elizabeth offered information specific to the “blame the victim” mentality and how complicated and engrained this issue is.
- Group agreed there are financial issues to consider in terms of programming for sexual assault; need for training or increasing awareness of new faculty/staff and students each year; and consideration of the issue within our University’s mission statement.

Josh offered a challenge to the group that once we train administration, faculty/staff and students we need to be prepared to respond to an increase in reports, and an increased interest from all three areas in terms of “how can we help”.
Next meeting: 4/12/11 at 8am in the Women’s Center.

Respectfully submitted by:

Deirdre Dalsing
Secretary